

URBAN DISTRICT

OF

KNOTTINGLEY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1956

U R B A N D I S T R I C T

O F

K N O T T I N G L E Y

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R

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B Y

J. F. F R A S E R

M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

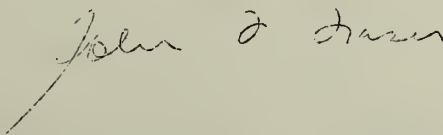
I have the honour to present for your information and consideration a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Urban District during the year 1956.

The Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John J. Hume".

Medical Officer of Health.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL - 1956.

Chairman: Cr. R.P. Wilson, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Cr. T.C. Askin

Cr. D.I. Bedford

Cr. J.T.D. Beaumont

Cr. S. Burton

Cr. J.E. Durkin, J.P.

Cr. P. Gross

Cr. J. Hannar

Cr. M. Nunns

Cr. D. Pettitt

Cr. W. Piper

Cr. A. Reynolds, J.P.

Cr. H. Rose

Cr. J. Shay

Cr. S.V. White

Clerk to the Council:

S.D. Hill, Esq.,

Medical Officer of Health:

John F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Public Health Inspector

Leslie Barber, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

P A R T O N E
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the District: 2,837 acres.
Population, mid-year, Registrar-General's estimate: 10,730.
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1956: 3,395.
Rateable value: 1956 - £82,131. 1955 - £50,593.
Product of penny rate: 1956: £311. 0. 0. 1955: £201. 8. 4.
These figures show a population increase of 100.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1955.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	95 (92)	92 (118)	187 (210)
Illegitimate	<u>5 (4)</u>	<u>5 (4)</u>	<u>10 (8)</u>
Total	<u>100 (96)</u>	<u>97 (122)</u>	<u>197 (218)</u>

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 18.4 (20.5)

Percentage of illegitimate live births: 5.07 (3.66)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4 (-)	- (3)	4 (3)
Illegitimate	<u>- (1)</u>	<u>- (-)</u>	<u>- (1)</u>
Total	<u>4 (1)</u>	<u>- (3)</u>	<u>4 (4)</u>

Rate per 1,000 (live and still births) 19.9 (18.0)

Rate per 1,000 estimated population: .37 (.38)

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All age groups	62 (44)	46 (46)	108 (90)
Infants under 1 yr.	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3 (2)	2 (3)	5 (5)
Illegitimate	<u>- (-)</u>	<u>- (-)</u>	<u>- (-)</u>
Total	<u>3 (2)</u>	<u>2 (3)</u>	<u>5 (5)</u>

Maternal Deaths. NIL (NIL)

Death Rates.

General rate per 1,000 population	10.1 (8.5)
All infants per 1,000 live births	25.4 (22.9)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	26.73 (23.80)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL (NIL)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live & still births	NIL (NIL)

The number of births has decreased by 21 as compared with last year, and the birth rate has fallen from 20.5 to 18.4. Deaths have increased by 18. The infant mortality rate is 25.4 as against 22.9 last year.

The principal causes of death are set out in the following table.

T A B L E I.

Cause of Death:	Male	Female	Total.
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	1	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus	5	1	6
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	-	1	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	5	8
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	-	1	1
Diabetes	-	2	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	6	5	11
Coronary Disease, Angina	9	3	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	1	1
Other Heart Disease	10	6	16
Other Circulatory Disease	6	5	11
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	8	1	9
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3
Congenital Malformations	2	-	2
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	2	9	11
Accidents	1	1	2
	61	47	108

Infant Mortality

The following Table gives causes of infant deaths during 1956, classified into age groups.

T A B L E II.

	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mth	All ages under 1yr.		
									M.	F.	T.
Meningitis & Acute Bronchitis						1			1	-	1
Congenital Debility & White Asphyxia	1								-	1	1
Atelectasis - Prematurity	1								-	1	1
Congenital Heart Disease	1								1	-	1
Acute Purulent Bronchitis & Broncho Pneumonia					1				1	-	1
	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	2	5

Four deaths occurred in hospital, which were inward transfers and one occurred at home.

COMPARISON OF KNOTTINGLEY VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST
RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY
AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Knott ingley Urban District	Aggregate West Rid- ing Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales (pro visional figures).
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population)	18.4	15.8	16.4	15.7
DEATH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) All Causes.	10.1	12.6	11.8	11.7
Infective and Para. Dis. excl. Tub. but incl. Syph. and other V.D.	-	0.07	0.07	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory	0.28	0.11	0.11	0.11
Tuberculosis Other	-	0.01	0.02	0.01
Tuberculosis All Forms	0.28	0.12	0.13	0.12
Cancer	1.77	2.05	1.89	2.08
Vascular Lesions of the nervous system	1.03	2.05	1.86	*
Heart and Circulatory	3.73	4.76	4.47	*
Respiratory Diseases	1.30	1.37	1.29	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births)	-	0.69	0.52	0.56
Infant Mortality	25.4	25.9	27.1	23.8
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births)	19.9	23.5	23.1	23.0

* figures not available.

P A R T T W O.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases, other than Tuberculosis, throughout the year.

T A B L E IV.

Disease	Jan/ Mar	Apr/ Jun	Jul/ Sep	Oct/ Dec	Total	Deaths	No. of cas admitted hospital.
Scarlet Fever	1	4	9	11	25	-	25
Whooping Cough	5	1	4	-	10	-	2
Pneumonia	1	-	2	5	8	-	-
Measles	1	-	8	157	166	-	7
	8	5	23	173	209	-	34

Certain of the above figures call for comment.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of scarlet fever reported during the year show an increase on those for last year from 22 to 25. Cases on the whole, though, are mild in character.

Diphtheria.

No case of diphtheria occurred during the year. 91 children under the age of five years and 1 over five years received a full course of primary immunisation against the disease. In addition 14 children received a reinforcing injection.

The need for immunisation remains as great as ever, if this killing disease is to be kept at bay.

UBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of tuberculosis persons.

T A B L E V.

Number of Cases in Register:	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total In Reg.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
At the commencement of 1956	29	21	7	14	71
Notified for the first time during 1956	4	4	1	1	10
Transfers - Inward	-	1	-	-	1
Removed during 1956	4	3	1	-	8
At end of 1956	29	23	7	15	74

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table.

T A B L E VI.

Entries relating to:	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Persons who have died	4	2	-	-	6
Persons who have left the district	-	1	-	-	1
Persons recovered	-	-	1	-	1
	4	3	1	-	8

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of the disease.

T A B L E VII.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 45	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-
Under 55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Under 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	4	4	1	1	4	2	-	-

National Assistance Act - Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above act.

Part III.

C O U N T Y C O U N C I L
O F T H E
W E S T R I D I N G O F Y O R K S H I R E

D I V I S I O N 1 2

Pontefract Municipal Borough
Featherstone Urban District
Knottingley Urban District
Osgoldcross Rural District

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
D I V I S I O N A L M E D I C A L O F F I C E R
1956

BY
J.F. FRASER,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31.12.56.

Divisional Medical Officer

J.F. FRASER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst. R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer
and School Medical Officer.

G.M. Mayhall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant County Medical Officer and
School Medical Officer

J.C. White, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Health Visitors and School Nurses

Miss E.M. Atkinson,	Miss M.H. Osborne.
Mrs. P.M. Brice.	Miss B.K. Porter.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.	Miss H. Theobald.
Miss B.N. Kennington.	Mrs. M.K. Walsh.

Assistant Health Visitors

Miss L.O.I. Day	Mrs. J.K. Smith (Clinic Nurse)
Miss M.W. Thornley.	

Tuberculosis Health Visitor

Mrs. E.W. Petch.

Midwives.

Miss K. Ault.	Mrs. A.M. Randall.
Mrs. A. Attack.	Miss C.A. Roberts.
Mrs. I. Bushell.	Mrs. W. Tame.
Mrs. E. Glover (relief)	Mrs. J.R. Wilford.
Mrs. B. Lister.	Miss M. Wright.
Miss C. Norton.	

Home Nurses

Mrs. R.L. Copestake.	Miss E. Lumley.
Miss A. Elsley.	Mrs. A. Moiser.
Mrs. F. Green	Miss M. Reading.
Miss E. Leach (relief)	

Home Nurse-Midwives.

Miss B.M. Butterworth.	Miss J. Redfearn.
------------------------	-------------------

Mental Health Social Worker

Mrs. M. Myers

Mental Health Home Teacher

Mrs. G.J. Argile.

Speech Therapist

Miss K. Wade.

Duly Authorised Officer

Mr. R.F.H. Battye

Senior Clerk

Mr. W. Carver.

INTRODUCTION

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Services Act.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1956 was 1073 (533 males and 540 females), an increase of 58 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 18.7 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 17.8 for the previous year was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 16.4 and the England and Wales birth rate of 15.7.

Deaths

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 539 (301 males and 238 females) an increase of 10 compared with 1955.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 9.3 for the previous year. Here again the death rate compares favourably with that for the West Riding Administrative Area which is 11.8 and for England and Wales 11.7.

Infant Mortality

In 1956 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 24, a decrease of six compared with the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 22.4 as against 22.8 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality

There was one maternal death in the Divisional area during the year.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

Domiciliary Midwifery

Of the 1083 notified live births, 541 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 57 of these cases.

Notifications

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the division:

Death of Child	4
Still Births	8
Artificial Feeding	38
Liability to be a	1
Source of Infection	

Medical Assistance

Medical aid notices sent in by midwives during 1956 numbered 111, all of these being domiciliary.

Gas and Air Analgesia

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Gas and air analgesia only was given in 57 cases. Pethidine only was given in 106 cases, and gas and air and pethidine was given in 278 cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics

There are four Ante-Natal Clinics in the division which are held at Pontefract, Featherstone, Knottingley and Ferrybridge, and during the year 523 patients attended, of which 455 were new patients. The total number of attendances was 2990.

At all of these clinics post-natal examinations are carried out and 173 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics.

These have continued to be well attended and the number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 603.

Institutional Midwifery

Patients from this division are admitted either to the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

No difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation, although it has not always been possible to secure admission to the hospital of the patient's choice. Due to travelling difficulties there is a preference for the Castleford Maternity Home, although our allocation of beds is much smaller than at Southmoor.

CHILD WELFARE

In this division, Infant Welfare sessions are held at seven fixed premises. The Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics are County owned premises, whilst the ones at Carleton, Ferrybridge, Streethouse and Beal are held in hired premises.

In August of this year the County Council brought into operation a mobile clinic which visits four parishes hitherto without Child Welfare services in the Osgoldcross Rural District. These have proved very popular.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price to all women attending the clinics:

Ostermilk	Viol
Trufood	Maltoline
Cow & Gate	Farex
Ovaltine	Scotts Twin Pack
Glucose 'D'	Robinson's Groats
Horlicks	Robinson's Patent Barley
Minadex	Colact
Lactagol	Robrex
Bemax	Robsoup
Cerex	Bovril Weaning Food
Trufood Cereal	Roboleine

The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets	Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
Viteolin Tablets	A & D Liquid.
Vitamin 'C'	Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies

During the year 81 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the division and 21 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups, i.e. entrants (5 years +) second age group (7 years +) intermediates (10 years +) and leavers (14 years +) continued throughout the year at the 54 schools in the division.

Re-examinations of children who at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3,414 periodic inspections were carried out. In addition 1,731 special inspections and re-examinations were made. When it is considered that the school population is 10,000 it will be realised over half of all children at school were examined at one time or another during the year.

General Condition of Children

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 89.95% were classified as satisfactory and only 10.05% as unsatisfactory.

Uncleanliness

During the year Health Visitors and School Nurses made 21,126 examinations of children in schools. Of these 591 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Mr. S.K. Sledge holds one session per week at the Pontefract Clinic at which children from all areas of the division attend. Due to the large numbers of children awaiting examination it has been necessary on occasions to hold additional sessions which have been held by Dr. J.V. Kirkwood, and during the year 1,136 children were examined. Of these, 430 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Headlands Road Clinic for children from this division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 21 sessions and saw 129 children. In all, the children made 239 attendances.

Orthopaedic Clinics

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Headlands Road Clinic, and during the year 10 sessions were held. 139 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 185.

Child Guidance Treatment.

Dr. S.M. Leese, Consultant Psychiatrist, holds Child Guidance Clinics at the County Health Department, Wakefield, and during the year 19 children from this area attended there.

Ultra Violet Ray Treatment.

During the winter months, Ultra Violet Ray treatment sessions are held twice weekly at the Headlands Road Clinic, Pontefract. During the year, 47 children made 816 attendances for this treatment.

Speech Therapy

Miss K.M. Wade, Speech Therapist in this division, held 108 sessions at the Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics during the year. 46 children were treated.

Handicapped Pupils

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in Special Schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 43 candidates were examined and where necessary x-ray examination arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 17 examinations were made.

B.C.G. Vaccination Against Tuberculosis

Vaccination against Tuberculosis was offered to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

During 1956 the following work was undertaken in the division:-

<u>No. of Consents</u> <u>issued.</u>	<u>No. of Consents</u> <u>Received.</u>	<u>Mantoux</u> <u>Test.</u>	<u>Mantoux</u> <u>Negative</u>	<u>Mantoux</u> <u>Positive</u>
1,545	836	805	571	224

B.C.G. Vaccination

571.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

At the beginning of the year the Government announced the introduction of a vaccine which was expected to confer a degree of immunity to Poliomyelitis. As the supply of vaccine was limited, Local Health Authorities were asked to make vaccination available in the first place only to children born in the years 1947 to 1954 inclusive. In this division 8,000 forms were issued to parents either through the schools or direct to homes. Of these, 2,250 were returned and registered. Although supplies of vaccine were limited, vaccinations commenced in April and were continued until May. They were resumed in November.

During the year 220 children in the division had a complete course of protection, i.e. two injections.

HEALTH VISITING

During the year the following number of visits were made by Health Visitors in the division:

<u>No. of Children under 5 years of age</u> <u>visited during the year</u>	5613
Total visits made to expectant mothers	55
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age	6622
Total visits to children aged 1 and under 2 years	4653
Total visits to children aged 2 but under 5 years	5905
Total visits to tuberculous households	2036
Total families or households visited	5040
Other cases visited	6703

HOME NURSING

During the year 27,939 visits were paid by Home Nurses compared with 27,731 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during the year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year.
(1) Medical	706	21369
(2) Surgical	227	5169
(3) Infectious Diseases	3	86
(4) Tuberculosis	33	1307
(5) Maternal complications	1	8
TOTALS	970	27939
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year	500	18535
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	70	665
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year	189	10402

HOME HELP SERVICE

The home help service is provided under the National Health Act, 1946. Section 29 of the act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| (a) Ill | (d) Expectant Mother |
| (b) Lying-in | (e) Mental Defective. |
| (c) Aged | (f) A child not over compulsory school age. |

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service, or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council Scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this division was increased from 23 to 27 on the 1st October, 195 and during the year the following assistance was given:-

Authorised Divisional Establishment

(i) Basic	22/27
(ii) From Reserve Pool	-
(iii) TOTAL	22/27

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December.

(i) Whole-time	Nil.
(ii) Part-time	39
(iii) TOTAL	39

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December

	<u>No. of Cases.</u>	<u>Hours Employed</u>
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	58	3871
(ii) Tuberculosis	9	1747
(iii) Chronic sick - (a) Aged 65 +	209	40140
(b) Under 65	58	5057
(iv) Others	-	-
TOTALS	334	50815

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time. 22.2

MENTAL HEALTH

The mental health work in the division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under Voluntary and Statutory Supervision, and in the provision of reports on home conditions to Hospital Management Committees. The nearest Occupation Centre to this area is at Castleford and at the end of the year 15 children from this area were attending there. For the children who are considered unsuitable for the Occupation Centre, group training classes are held twice weekly at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics, where the Home Teacher, Mrs. Argile provides training in handicrafts of various sorts.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR SUPERANNUATION PURPOSES

New entrants to the County Council Service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and during the year I examined 70 candidates. In addition 1 member of the County Staff resident in the Divisional area who had been off duty through sickness for a considerable period was examined to ascertain whether or not he was incapable of continuing employment by reason of permanent ill-health.

K N O T T I N G L E Y U R B A N

D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L .

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

F O R T H E Y E A R

1 9 5 6 .

B Y

L. B A R B E R ,

M. A. P. H. I . ,

M. R. S. H.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

CONSTITUTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.
1956/57.

CHAIRMAN.

Cr. P. Gross

MEMBERS.

Cr.T.C. Askin.

Cr.J. Hannar.

Cr.Mrs.M. Nunns.

Cr.D. Pettitt.

Cr.W. Piper.

Cr.J. Shay.

Cr.R.P. Wilson, J.P.

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KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

To the Chairman & Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take great pleasure in presenting to you my second Annual Report on the work of the Public Health and Cleansing Department during the year 1956.

Two main themes are evident throughout the whole of this period, namely Slum Clearance and Food Hygiene. These have, as it were, provided the background music to the year's work, and in fact have almost monopolised the working hours of your staff.

In Slum Clearance the groundwork has been well and truly done and though few houses have yet been demolished, the accelerating tempo of the building programme should soon result in houses being vacated and then rapidly cleared. Particularly is this true of the Garden Lane section of the re-development plan where the demolition of a perimeter screen of houses will reveal a pleasant airy, spacious little estate at present hidden by the ugly, cramped, and dilapidated dwellings it is to replace.

Enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations has not been devoid of incident and the transfer of much responsibility from owner to occupier of shop premises has, as forecast in my first report, caused most dissent. Fortunately many traders have retained a sense of proportion and clashes have eventually been resolved satisfactorily.

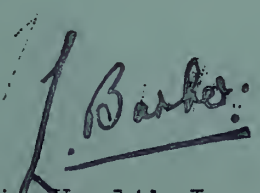
One can never look back over any period of work in a Public Health Department and say "That's that". The best one can do is to say "So far so good" and hope that the experience gained will lead to more success at the next attempt. A Utopia may be achieved one day but meantime Apathy, Prejudice and dire Ignorance are the three obstructive elements which must be overcome before the concepts underlying all Public Health work, namely Clean Air, Good Housing, Pure Food and Freedom from Disease can be made the birthright of everyone.

I would close by adding a sincere "Thank You" to all Council members and staff, in particular my Chairman, Cr.

P. Gross and the "staff" of the Public Health Dept., Mr.G. Parker for all the assistance and advice received during the year.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,


Public Health Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Knottingley,
Yorks.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.
Section 1 - Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supplies.

The water supply for the district is purchased in bulk from Pontefract County Borough and is distributed by Knottingley Urban District Council.

The water is pumped from three boreholes outside the area and is chlorinated before use. No interruption or diminution in supply has been apparent during the year and the quality has been consistently good.

A total of 3399 houses are supplied from the mains and only four dwellinghouses are not connected, six houses having been connected to the public supply this year.

Samples of both mains and private supplies have been taken for Bacteriological examination and these have proved to be satisfactory in each case.

A copy of the Public Analyst's report on a chemical analysis of the water supply is appended below.

Sample of Mains Water.

Chemical Analysis.

	<u>Parts per Million.</u>
Total Solids.	360
Chloride.	20
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ .	116.
Total Hardness.	160
Permanent Hardness.	44
Temporary Hardness.	116.
Lead, Copper, Zinc.	Nil
Iron.	Nil
Manganese.	Nil
Free Ammonia	0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	6.1
pH	7.4

This water is of good organic purity.

(Signed) F.W.M. Jaffe.

RICHARDSON & JAFFE.

Sanitary Accommodation and Sewage Disposal.

Water borne sanitation is available to over 99% of the properties in the Urban District. Two houses are still using cesspools where the sewer is available but 7 houses and 1 factory have abolished their cesspools and connected to the sewer in 1956. In all this has meant 11 cesspools abolished.

An attempt is also being made to abolish privies and privy middens in those properties where water is available by offering grants under the Public Health Act, 1936 and, where possible, under the Housing Act, 1949. Four houses have been converted to water carriage this year and in each case a cesspool has been provided.

The whole of the Knottingley sewage is treated in one other of the Council's two sewage works, both of which are overloaded. The Council's plans for a new, modern works on the Marsh Lane site are maturing slowly and it is hoped that the Local Enquiry will take place during the current year.

Infectious Diseases.

Each case of Infectious Disease or death due to Infectious Disease was visited and, where necessary or upon request, terminal disinfection was carried out. The Council still issues disinfectant free to all ratepayers and supplies can be obtained on request from the Town Hall.

Dirty and Verminous Premises.

The main infestations dealt with during the year were ants but there was an increase in bed-bug infestations discovered as compared with last year's figures. All these insects can be cleared from infested premises but rarely can this be achieved by one treatment only. For this reason, supplies of Chlordane, D.D.T. and Gammexane are issued to householders when required with full instructions as to their proper usage. Many of the infestations are now dealt with initially by our own staff in order to assess the extent of the infestation.

Reports received from householders show that the insecticides are wholly successful and re-infestation rarely occurs, at least in the same year.

In the case of bedbugs, all disinfestations are carried out by personnel of the Public Health Department.

I give below a summary of disinfestation carried out by this department.

Infestation.	No. Treated.	Re-infestation.
Ants.	26.	1.
Bugs.	10.	-
Cockroaches.	7.	1.
Clover Mites.	4.	2.

Moveable Dwellings.

During 1956 there was a decrease in the number of caravans stationed in the district.

The one licensed site in the district is now slightly under occupied and the position is satisfactory in all respects.

Gipsy dwellings are constantly appearing on odd sites throughout the district. They are not accepted on licensed sites, they must live somewhere yet they won't live in houses. How is one to deal with this kind of thing adequately and yet kindly?

Atmospheric Pollution.

No. of 30 minute smoke observations.	19.
No. of Intimation Notices served.	1.
No. of Complaints Received.	8.
No. of Works Visited.	16.

The Clean Air Act is now on the Statute Book and all Members and Officials of Local Authorities are, I am sure, hoping that, despite a few outstanding defects in the Act, a new sunlit age is in prospect.

Although tobacco is receiving, and very properly, much blame for Lung cancers, I remember being told at a conference in 1954, by an eminent Research Scientist, that cancer forming substances had been isolated from Diesel exhaust and chimney smoke. Surely this fact, coupled with the disastrous "smogs"

of recent years and the incidence of bronchial suffering, due to the dirt laden atmosphere makes Clean Air as worthwhile a cause to fight for as any that have gone before.

The Local Authority has power to set up "Smoke Control Areas" now and may make grants to help owners and occupiers comply with the Smoke Control Orders. It behoves us however to set our own house (or in this case houses) in order. Some 50% of the houses in the Urban District are Council property and the greater number of these are still using grates and appliances which will burn only bituminous coal. With our programme of Redevelopment of the old residential centres of the town, a wonderful opportunity arises for installing efficient Approved appliances and enforcing, by tenancy agreement, the burning of smokeless fuels. This could be a practical and lasting demonstration of the Council's determination to ensure Clean Air and would materially assist them when dealing with recalcitrant owners, occupiers and industrialists at a later date.

There are two sets of Air Pollution gauges in the district and a total of six (including those around the Power Station) to measure primarily the increase or decrease in total Air Pollution as the new Generating Plant starts and the older Plant gradually ceases to operate. Nevertheless even now much information is being gathered to help assess our problem and the success or failure of our work will be indicated in large measure by these cold, unreasoning figures.

The current figures show, on average, a decrease of one ton per square mile in deposits and practically similar Sulphur Pollution when compared with last year's figures. Unfortunately this is not yet a matter for congratulation as one set of apparatus did not function during the first half of 1955 and in any case two years' figures only are insufficient evidence on which to base any premise of success. Nevertheless they may, if accepted cautiously, indicate a trend in the right direction. Next year's figures should be even more instructive by comparison.

	Deposits per sq. mile in Tons.				Sulphur. Mgms SO ₃ per day.	
	Soluble.	Insol.	Total.		1955.	1956.
Holmfields.	1956 5.55	1956 8.88	1956 14.44	1955 18.11	0.809	0.918
Warren Avenue.	4.74	6.43	11.19	9.74	1.548	1.522
Average of six sites round Power Station.	4.71	6.86	11.58	12.93	1.30	1.40

Rodent Control.

The Council employ a part time Rodent Operator with, I am afraid, the accent on part time. The amount of survey work carried out is negligible for an area of this size and we are almost forced to rely on complaints to trace the rats. Whilst this type of work mollifies the householder and shows how far we are "on top of the job" by killing the odd rat or so it is, in fact, the reverse that applies.

If time were available to survey and treat regularly the farms, factories, streams and small holdings, the rat population would be thoroughly controlled and house holders' complaints would practically cease. This is shown most admirably by the latest of a series of sewer tests and treatments undertaken during the Autumn. Two complete sewer systems out of the four at present existing were completely free of rats. Only a few points of infestation were found in the other systems and all these were in "Reservoir Areas", namely near the canal and in an area of old, badly constructed drains which are easily accessible to rats.

In each case during the year where a survey has been made and a Block Control treatment carried out, re-infestation has not yet occurred on anything like the scale found at the original survey.

A variety of poisons are in use today, Arsenious Oxide, Zinc Phosphide, Antu, Red Squill, and Warfarin, but the number of bait bases e.g. Oatmeal (Fine, Course, Pinhead), Bread Rusk, Bread Mash, Sugar Meal, Soaked Wheat, Maize etc. exceeds even the poisons.

Much skill and experience is necessary not only to kill the rodents but to prevent other animals suffering the same fate and for this reason I am not in favour of the "Do it yourself" movement when applied to Rodent Control.

Close contact is maintained with the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, Infestation Division, both by means of visits from their field officers and by attending meetings of the Yorkshire (West Riding) (No.1) Workable Area Committee for Rodent Control. At these latter meetings problems arising out of day-to-day practice, new methods of control, new discoveries concerning rat borne diseases and many other topics are discussed with colleagues, Ministry representatives and, very often, expert guest lecturers. In this way Authorities such as ours, which cannot afford to experiment on any scale, are assured of the benefits accruing from other sources without incurring any of the expense.

I give below a statistical report on Rodent Control, a copy of the return made to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st. MARCH, 1957.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.				
	Local Authority.	Non- Agricultural.			Agric.
		Dwelling Houses incl. Council.	All Other. (Incl. Business Premises.	Total of Cols. 1, 2, 3.	
1. Number of Properties in L.A.'s district.	13.	3254.	417.	3684.	30.
2. Number of Properties Inspected as result of:					
(a) Notification	6	36	12	54	-
(b) Survey under the Act.	13	48	19	80	2
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for other purpose.	13	126	-	139	3
3. Total Inspections Carried out incl. re-inspects.	121	344	103	568	7
4. Number of Properties Inspected (in Sec 2) found infested by:					
(a) Major.	-	-	1	1	-
Rats Minor.	7	45	7	59	-
(b) Major.	-	-	-	-	-
Mice Minor.	2	27	4	33	-

(5).

	Local Authority.	Dwelling Houses. (incl. Council.)	All Other (incl. Business Premises.)	Total of Cols. 1, 2, 3.	Agric.
5. Number of Infested Properties (in Sec. 4) treated by L.A.	9	72	12	93	-
6. Total treatments done incl. re-treatments.	12	86	10	108	-
7. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of Act	-	-	-	-	-
(a) treatment.	-	-	-	-	-
(b). Structural Work (i.e. proofing).	-	-	2	2	-
8. Number of cases in which default action taken after Sec. 4 notice.	-	-	-	-	-
9. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
10. Block Control schemes done.	7.				

In the above the "Act" referred to is the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Factories Act 1937 & 1948.

I give below a copy of the return made to the Ministry of Labour and National Service which summarises the visits made and defects found during the year under review.

In addition to the visits and work shown in this return many visits were made to factories in respect of Means of Escape in case of Fire and a number of Certificates were issued. Many alterations have been made or are being made in factories to enable up-to-date Certificates to be issued.

Visits in respect of emissions of smoke, noxious effluvia etc. are mentioned elsewhere as is the Rodent problem in factories.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

PART ONE OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

(6).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Secs.1,2,3, 4,6 are to be enforced by L.A.s.	4	9	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in(i) in which Sec 7 is enforced by L.A.	42	52	3	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the L.A.(Excl. outworkers' premises.)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	46	61	3	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred. To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness. (S.1.)	1	1	-	1	-
Overcrowding. (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation. (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to outwork.)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	4	3	-	2	-

The above report is for the period Jan. 1st.- Dec. 31st.
1956.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.Section 2. Housing.New Houses.

The number of Council houses completed during the year has fallen again but the rate of building is once more accelerating as the slum clearance programme gets under way. 33 houses were completed by the Local Authority and 7 by private enterprise.

Overcrowding.

No case of statutory overcrowding has been brought to the notice of the Public Health Department during the year.

Improvement Grants, Housing Act 1949.

Improvement Grants have never become a really popular method of securing modernisation of tenanted property in this district. The number of grants made this year was 22 making a total of 71 since the inception of the scheme.

Unfit Houses.

During the year 26 Demolition Orders and 1 Closing Order were made. Six houses were demolished and the sites cleared.

This does not cover the whole of the work done in respect of unfit and substandard houses. The whole of the old town centre is being replanned and re-developed, and to ensure that this is done in an orderly fashion, houses and land are being purchased by negotiation whenever the opportunity presents itself. The houses thus purchased are all typical ripe for demolition properties and the tenants will be rehoused and the sites cleared for re-building. 14 such properties were acquired during the year.

The first stage of this commendable project is now almost completed and some 30 new dwellings will have been provided. A similar number of old houses will have been cleared and the second stage covering new dwellings will have commenced by the time this report is in print.

HOUSING STATISTICS 1956.

Number of Dwellinghouses in District.....3403.....

Number of Back-to-back included in above...24.approximately

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)156.....

(b). Number of inspections made for the purpose458.....

(2) (a) Number of Dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated RegulationsNone.....

(b). Number of inspections made for the purposeNone.....

(3) Number of Dwellings needing further action:-

(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation66.....

(b). Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation27.....

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

- (a). Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.....None.....
- (b). Number of defective dwellinghouses(excluding those shown in (a) above) in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action
.....28.....

3. Action under statutory powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 16, Housing Act 1936:-

- (1). Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs
.....None.....
- (2). Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
(a) By Owners.....None.....
By Local Authority in default of ownersNone...

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1). Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied
.....1.....
- (2). Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
(a) By owners.....1.....
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners
.....None.....

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of representations etc. made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation
.....42....
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....26.....
- (3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders6.....
- (4) Any action under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953? If so, what?..16.of.the.above.Demolition O.s .were.made.into.Closing.Orders.under.Section.10 .owing.to.the.effect.of.demolition.on.adjoining .property...

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1). Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....1.....
- (2). Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....None.....

E. Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act, 1936, and the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

- (1) Number of Clearance Areas represented during the year.....None.....
- (2) Number of houses included in these areas
.....None.....
- (3) Number of persons to be displaced...None....
- (4) Action taken during the year in respect of Clearance Areas:-
(a) by Clearance Orders, number made..None...
(b) by Compulsory Purchase Orders..None.....

- (5). Number of houses in Clearance Areas demolished during the year.....None.....
- (6) Number of persons rehoused from houses demolished during the year.....None.....

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part 4 - Overcrowding.

- (a). (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.....
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein.....
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.....
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.....
- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases....

There is no relevant information available on overcrowding.

5. New Houses.

Number of new houses provided during the year:-

By the Local Authority:- Permanent Type...33.....
Temporary Type...None.....

By Private Enterprise7.....

6. Housing Act, 1949.

Section 4 - Any action in connection with advances for purposes of increasing housing accommodation..None..

7. Housing Act 1949, as amended by Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954.

Grants to persons other than Local Authorities for improvement of housing accommodation. Any action during the year?

..Grants.were.made.in.respect.of.22 .dwellings.....

Supplementary Remarks.

Of the 66 houses found to be unfit for human habitation during the year, 27 had Demolition Orders or Closing Orders made on them and a further 14 were purchased for demolition in lieu of making Orders on the property.

Of these 14 houses, 7 are the subject of a Certificate of Unfitness issued by the Medical Officer of Health and accepted by the Council, after purchase, in December, 1956.

Section 3 - Food Inspection & Control.Slaughterhouses.

During the year 1956 one slaughterhouse was closed by the owner and six private slaughterhouses are now in use within the Urban District.

One of these, used solely for the slaughter of horses for human consumption, was enlarged and improved and further improvements are in progress. As will be seen from the table below, the number of horses slaughtered was considerable and over 70% of these carcasses were exported, the remainder serving horsemeat shops in a nearby town.

All the slaughterhouses are well equipped but one or two are rather badly sited and it will be interesting to know what government policy will be with regard to slaughterhouses which are, in effect, attached to the butcher's shop.

Meat Inspection.

All animals slaughtered within the district and intended for human consumption are inspected. The arrangements made with Osgoldcross Rural District Council and Castleford M.B.C. for ensuring inspection in my absence hold good and my thanks are due to their respective Chief Public Health Inspectors for their continuing co-operation.

In addition to the post-mortem examination of all horses, those intended for export must be seen alive and in good condition before slaughter. Copies of the official Certificates used in the export of horseflesh will be found at the end of this report.

All organs and meat condemned or surrendered as unfit for human consumption are coloured green to prevent re-sale and left in the possession of the butcher concerned. Collection of inedible offals and unfit meat is carried out regularly by various fertiliser and other by product manufacturers.

Carcasses affected by the parasite *Cysticercus Bovis*, which, if eaten by man, results in tapeworm infestation of the intestinal tract, are subjected to cold storage in accordance with Ministry recommendations. This treatment renders the carcass fit for human consumption and the loss to the butcher is therefore small. The cost of this treatment is paid by the butcher in every case.

I give below statistical tables concerned with meat inspection during 1956.

Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excl. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.	Total
No. Killed.	674	33	7	1581	672	583	3550.
No. Inspected.	674	33	7	1581	672	583	3550.
<u>All diseases except T.B. & Cysticerci.</u>	-	-	1.	-	-	-	1.
Whole carcasses condemned.							
Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned.	27.	1.	-	6	3	77	114.
Percentage of No. inspected affected by disease other than T.B. & Cysticerci.	4	3.03	14.29	.38	.45	13.21	3.24

	Cattle excl. Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs.	Horses.	Total.
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	32	26	-	-	9	-	67.
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	5.75	22.8	-	-	1.4	-	
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>							
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned.	5	-	-	-	-	-	5.
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	5	-	-	-	-	-	5.
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Carcasses condemned as unfit for human consumption.

- 1 Heifer Carcase and Offal Generalised Tuberculosis.
1 Calf Carcase and Offal Immaturity.

Organs and part carcasses affected by Tuberculosis.

Bovine.

Hindquarters.	1.	Head & Tongues.	15.
Lungs, (Pairs.)	13.	Livers.	7.
Spleens.	1.	Mesentery.	1.
Briskets.	1.	Kidneys.	2.
Rib Cystems.	2.	Forequarters.	4.

Pigs.

Lungs, (Pairs.)	1.	Heads.	19.
Hindquarters.	1.		

Organs and part carcasses affected by other diseases.

Bovine.

Head and Tongues.	18.	Livers.	16.
Hearts.	15.	Lungs, (Pairs.)	3.
Spleens.	2.	Skirts.	11.
Kidneys.	3.		

Sheep.

Livers.	5.	Lungs, (Pairs.)	1.
---------	----	-----------------	----

Horses.

Livers.	75.	Lungs, (Pairs.)	2.
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Pigs.

Lungs, (Pairs.)	2.	Spleens.	1.
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Food Inspection.

The following shows details of food surrendered during 1956.

Fruit	Tins	16.
Vegetables.	Tins.	2.

(12).

Meat	Tins	3.
Milk.	Tins.	3.
Meat Cooked		62lbs.
Other Foods.		5lbs.
Total Weight.		<u>97lbs.</u>

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1949/1954.

I give below the numbers of licences issued by the Local Authority under the above regulations for the year 1956.

Dealers.

T.T.	7
Pasteurised.	8
Sterilised.	18

Supplementary.

T.T.	2
Pasteurised.	3.
Sterilised.	2.

13 milk samples were taken for Bacteriological Examination, of which all but one were satisfactory, one for Biological Examination and this was satisfactory.

Ice-cream.

There are now 20 premises in the district registered for the storage and sale of Ice-cream and one registered manufacturer.

Samples of all makes of Ice-cream retailed in the district have been taken and are generally good.

The local manufacturer, though complying with the Ice Cream, (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947-52 as regards the manufacture of his product, has been experiencing difficulty in cooling the finished product and in sterilising his equipment. It is hoped that these troubles are now over and consistently good results will now be achieved.

Food Hawkers.

During the year all the locally based food hawkers and their premises have been registered under the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951, Section 76.

Before registration, hot water, sink, soap and towels must be provided on the vehicle except in the case of vegetable hawkers only. Properly constructed units have been used for this purpose and vacuum flasks have NOT been accepted, as being outside the spirit of the section.

Nine hawkers have been registered and of these 7 have fallen in with our requirements. Only 2 have chosen to be registered for vegetable trading only.

Food Premises.

I give below a list of food premises in the district by type.

Registered Section 16, Food and Drugs Act 1956.

For the Sale or storage for sale of Ice-cream	20.
For the manufacture of Ice-cream.	1.
For the preparation of sausages or preserved food.	8.

Other food premises.

Butchers.	10.
Cafes.	5.
Fish and Chip Shops.	14.
Ice-cream Manufacturers.	1.
Ice-cream Retailers.	20.
Food preparing Premises.	9.
Bakehouses.	3.
Slaughterhouses.	6.
Clubs and licenced Premises.	28
Other Food Shops.	61.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

That some improvements have been made in the standards of Food Hygiene in the area is, I think, self evident when the Summary of Repairs and Improvements contained at the end of this report is read. It is therefore with some trepidation that I suggest that if the hot and cold water, sinks and drainage so expensively acquired, were now used, an even greater improvement would result.

Is there, in this age of bright colours, untarnishing synthetic materials and Do-it-yourself, any excuse for the ill-lit, brown and cream, higgledy-piggledy shop we used to know? Ye Olde Curiosity Shoppe may be a wonderland when full of canvases, oriental brass and exotic carvings, but it is a positive menace and a danger at least as great as the tobacco spoken of in another section, when filled with meat products, cream cakes, and all the other appetising but potentially disease spreading delights of the 20th. century palate.

Absolute enforcement of the Regulations is impossible.

Enforcement has a major pre-requisite - constant attention - and under pressure from Slum Clearance, Clean Air, Public Cleansing, Rodent Control, Housing Repairs, Reports, Committees and Ministries constant attention is impossible.

Enforcement must, after the initial stage of securing compliance with the physical necessities of Hygiene, be by education of the food-handlers to an active and not merely a tolerant acceptance of the principles governing hygienic practice.

The Public can and should play a large part in securing clean, wholesome food. All cases of foreign bodies in foodstuffs and all contaminated and dirty foods should be reported to the Health Department immediately. The trader or food handler who shows gross disregard of his responsibilities towards his fellow citizens should be passed by. Only when Public Opinion and support is ranged alongside them can legislators and officials carry out the arduous duties imposed upon them.

There is a brighter side to the picture fortunately. In the Knottingley Urban District we have a small, but growing, group of retailers and caterers who have realised that Food Hygiene is not the invention of some crank or dogmatist. It is, in fact, the application to business of a few well founded and time honoured practices and courtesies of civilised life. Soiled linen, fly flecked food and dirty utensils would not be tolerated in the home, nor offered to a welcome guest. Surely it is not too much to hope for an extension of this spirit into the food trade.

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(14)
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.
SECTION 4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council are responsible for the collection and disposal of domestic refuse throughout the district. With the exception of a few properties in the outlying, unsewered parts of the district, 2½ cu. ft. B.S.S. dustbins are in general use. With bins of this size an efficient and regular collection must be maintained and I must express my thanks to the Public Cleansing employees for their willingness and, in fact determination to maintain at all costs a regular weekly collection. No praise is too high for the way these men tackle an uncongenial job in a consistently cheerful manner.

The turnover of labour has been greatly reduced by the adoption of a scale of issue of protective clothing and by the payment of a Salvage Bonus based on 50% of the profit from the sale of all types of salvageable material. This does help, in some measure, to make up for the overtime payments received in industry.

The scale of Protective Clothing is as below:-

Issue per man.

1 Mackintosh ¾ length coat.	Every 4th. year.
1 Pair Armoured Boots.	Every 2nd. year.
2 Pairs Overalls.	Annually.
Gloves.	As required.
Goggles.	As required.

Refuse Collection.

A team of two drivers and six loaders using two Austin 5 ton side loaders carry out refuse collection. Of the vehicles one is 10 years old and one is 4 years old.

Maintenance of these vehicles is now carried out in our own depot and only certain major items need now be sent out. This is undoubtedly resulting in quicker remedying of faults, better performance from the vehicles and cash savings to the Council.

A new 16/18 cu. yd. Fore and Aft Tipping Refuse Collection Vehicle was ordered during the current year and it is, at the time of writing, in service.

A few privy conversions have been carried out during the year as shown elsewhere in this report and this tends to ease the problem of collection by abolishing unhygienic middens and pailclosets but at the same time increases the calls on the Cesspool/Gully Emptying Vehicle.

I give below a summary of work carried out weekly.

No. of Dustbins emptied.	3575.
No. of Ashpits.	6.
No. of Privy middens.	13.
No. of Pail closets.	33.
Approx. Annual Tonnage.	3490.

Refuse Disposal.

All refuse continues to be tipped at the Headlands Disposal Site in the centre of the town.

By the kind co-operation of one or two local firms, a large and fairly continuous supply of inert covering matter was made available for our use. The Council's tractor removes soil and subsoil before tipping over the land, levels and compacts the tip, spreads 3"-6" of inert material on top and later, when compaction is almost complete, replaces the soil to cover the completed tip.

Liberal use of insecticides and rodenticides has controlled, if not entirely eliminated vermin trouble.

Nets were erected around the tipping area to stop paper being blown off the tip but as the posts, whether of wood or metal, were constantly either broken or stolen almost within hours of re-erection, the experiment was abandoned as too costly.

Salvage.

Salvage continues to be collected but much of it is, in

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these more choosy days, unsaleable. Profits however are still accruing and to this extent the Rates are reduced.

During the year Jan 1st.- Dec. 31st. 1956, the following amounts of salvage were sold.

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qutrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
Wastepaper.	38	14	2	-
Rags etc.	3	9	2	-
Metal.	5	14	2	14.

From these amounts a total profit of £127 was paid towards Rate reliefs. The demand has not yet risen and the Salvage Scheme is, at the moment, merely ticking over. We are endeavouring, in spite of disposal difficulties, to maintain our collections, burning or tipping the excess, against the day when sales will again increase.

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PART FIVE.STATISTICAL TABLES.SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS19 56.

Accumulations	14.
Canal Boats.	10.
Cesspools.	27.
Drainage Inspections.	52.
Privy Conversions.	18.
Drainage Tests.	47.
Factories Mechanical.	52.
Factories Non-mechanical.	9.
Licensed Premises.	37.
Nuisance Inspections.	82.
Piggeries & Stables.	15.
Refuse Collection.	91.
Refuse Disposal.	83.
Rodent Control.	72.
Schools.	8.
Smoke Observations.	19.
Smoke Visits.	28.
Tents, Vans & Sheds.	99.
Water Supplies.	14.
Food Inspection.	9.
Sampling.	25.
Shops Act Inspections.	7.
Butchers.	41.
Grocers.	76.
Fried Fish.	12.
Other Food Shops.	51.
Canteens.	11.
Ice-cream Premises.	36.
Food Preparing Premises.	49.
Bakehouses.	33.
Milk Distributors.	40.
Hawkers.	17.
Meat Inspection.	705.
Slaughterhouses.	23.
Houses Inspected. (Public Health & Housing Acts.)	126.
Revisits.	139.
Unfit Houses.	193.
Dirty & Verminous Premises.	35.
Infectious Disease.	36.
Interviews.	11.
Housing Consolidated Regulations. Houses Recorded.	-
Overcrowding.	10.
Miscellaneous.	76.
Total.	<u>2538</u>

SUMMARY OF NOTICES.
1956.

Informal.

	<u>Served.</u>	<u>Complied with.</u>
Public Health Act, 1936.	67.	52.
Food and Drugs Act.	19.	11.
Factories Act.	2.	1.
Slaughter of Animals Act.	2.	1.

Statutory.

Public Health Act, 1936.	18.	14.
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Two dustbins were provided by the Council upon default of owners to comply with notices under the above Public Health Act.

SUMMARY OF REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED
1956.

Exterior.

Privy Conversions.	4.
Walls. pointed	3.
Walls. rendered.	4.
Eaves Gutters. repaired	3.
Fall pipes renewed	2.
Drains relaid	3.
cleansed	9.
Cesspools abolished	8.
Roofs repaired.	15.
Water Closets repaired.	8.
renewed.	4.
Doors and Windows repaired.	8.
Dustbins renewed.	23.
Smoke nuisances abated.	1.

Interior.

Plaster. walls.	9.
ceilings.	3.
Ranges repaired.	5.
Floors repaired.	2.
Sinks renewed.	1.
Waste pipes renewed.	1.
Water pipes repaired.	3.

Food Premises.

Cold Water Provided.	11.
Hot Water Provided.	15.
Soap and towels provided.	4.
Sinks Provided.	10.
Preparation Rooms Provided.	1.
Food Store Provided.	1.
Ratproofed.	1.
Food Shops. decorated.	4.
Drainage.	4.
Fly proofing and ventilating.	3.
Refrigerators provided.	2.
Chopping Blocks provided.	1.
Artificial lighting.	2.

Certificates Used in Export of Horseflesh to the
Continent.

For Horseflesh Entering Belgium.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

L. Barber,
Public Health Inspector.

TOWN HALL,
KNOTTINGLEY,
YORKS.

Tele. No. 2784(2 lines.)

This is to certify that I have today inspected
.....horses at the premises of Mr. J. Hardy,
Vale Head, Knottingley and found them to be fit
for human consumption.

The horses were owned by:-

Mr. _____

of _____

and were seen alive before
slaughter.

Signed _____

Public Health Inspector.

Date. _____

For Horseflesh Entering
Holland.

KNOTTINGLEY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

L. Barber Esq.,
Public Health Inspector.

TOWN HALL,
KNOTTINGLEY,
YORKS.

Tele. No. 2784(2 lines.)

This is to certify that I, the undersigned, have
examined by ante and post mortem examination the
horse carcasses marked and that
no symptoms of disease were observed and that the
animals were not killed in distress nor died from
natural causes.

I further certify that these animals were
slaughtered by J. Hardy at Vale Head, Knottingley
and that the carcasses are fit for human consumption.

Signed _____

Public Health Inspector.

Date. _____

